

Message Text

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S/S-O: P. SARROS

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S E C R E T STATE 247730

EXDIS TODEP 034

FOLL REPEAT TUNIS 06909 ACTION USUN INFO SECSTATE WASHDC

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EXDIS

SECTO 604

FOR SCALI FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: PALESTINIAN ISSUE AT UNGA

1. FYI: THE UNGA DEBATE ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE DUE TO
TAKE PLACE THE WEEK OF NOV. 11-15 WILL ADD FURTHER
COMPLICATIONS FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS TO THOSE
CAUSED BY THE RABAT SUMMIT. WE WISH TO MAKE OUR POSITION
ABSOLUTELY CLEAR ON THE PROBLEMS POSED BY THE ARAB
HANDLING OF THIS ISSUE AND TO ENCOURAGE SELECTED DELEGATIONS
TO DO LIKEWISE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT RPT NOT WANT TO LAUNCH

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AN ALL-OUT CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARABS NOR DO WE WISH TO IN

ANY WAY GET INTO A DISCUSSION OF THE WORDING OF ANY DRAFT RESOLUTION OR ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO SO. WE HAVE NO INTEREST IN DISCOURAGING AN EXTREME RESOLUTION OR STIMULATING MODERATE COMPROMISES. US MISSION SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY WAY. WE DO WISH TO GET ACROSS IN EARLY TALKS WITH SELECTED DELEGATIONS, AND POSSIBLY IN A STATEMENT AT AN APROPRIATE TIME, THE POINTS SUMMARIZED IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH. IN SHORT, IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO MODERATE THE DEBATE BUT NOT THE RESOLUTION AND TO GENERATE CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. END TEXT.

2. TALKING POINTS:

A. NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE FRAMEWORK ARE BASED ON SC RESES 242 AND 338. THESE RESOLUTIONS SPECIFICALLY ENDORSE ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST IN PEACE AS A SOVEREIGN STATE.

B. WHILE THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIANS MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ANY OVERALL PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, THIS CAN NOT RPT NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF CALLING INTO QUESTION ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AS A SOVEREIGN STATE.

C. NEITHER THE UNGA NOR THE ARAB LEAGUE, IN ENDORSING THE PLO AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, MADE ANY REFERENCE TO ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST NOR TO SC RESES 242 AND 338. MOREOVER, THE PALESTINIAN NATIONAL COVENANT OF 1968 AND THE LATEST MEETING OF THE PALESTINIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS ARE CATEGORIC IN CALLING FOR THE CREATION OF A SINGLE SECULAR STATE IN ALL OF WHAT WAS ONCE THE MANDATED TERRITORY OF PALESTINE. THIS POSITION IS CLEARLY THAT OF THE PLO, AS WITNESSED BY THAT ORGANIZATION'S WORDS AND DEEDS. IT IS AN UNMISTAKABLE DENIAL OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST, A RIGHT GUARANTEED INTER ALIA BY THE UN CHARTER. THEREFORE THE ACTIONS ALREADY TAKEN BY THE UNGA AND RABAT (BY ENDORSING PLO INSTEAD OF JORDAN) HAVE COMPLICATED THE PROCESSOF NEGOTIATIONS. WE FEAR THE PRESENT UNGA
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DEBATE WILL ADD TO THESE COMPLICATIONS. FOR ONE THING, IT RISKS ADDIN TO ISRAEL'S SUSPICIONS OF ARAB INTENTIONS; ISRAEL HAS ALREADY MADE CLEAR IT WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO, AND FORTHCOMING DEBATE COULD RAISE ISRAELI DOUBTS ABOUT NEGOTIATING WITH ANY ARAB GOVERNMENTS. IN ADDITION, PUBLIC REACTION TO DEBATE IN U.S. COULD UNDERMINE OUR ABILITY TO CONTINUE OUR PEACEMAKING ROLE.

D. WE BELIEVE THAT ALL THOSE GOVERNMENTS SINCERELY INTERESTED IN PEACE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO THE OBSERVATION OF THE UN CHARTER SHOULD MAKE IT VERY CLEAR DURING THE UNGA DEBATE THAT THEY WILL OPPOSE ANY CHALLENGE TO ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AS A SOVEREIGN STATE, FROM THE PALESTINIANS OR ANY OTHER QUARTER, AND REAFFIRM THEIR SUPPORT FOR SC RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

3. USUN SHOULD APPROACH SELECTED DELEGATIONS WITH WHOM OUR DEMARCHES WILL BE LIKELY TO HAVE AN EFFECT. PERHAPS A GOOD GROUP WOULD BE THE TWENTY WHO JOINED US IN OPPOSING THE ARAB TEXT AT UNESCO (PARIS (26511)).

4. VOTING INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED ONCE A DRAFT RESOLUTION HAS BEEN INTRODUCED.
KISSINGER

UNQUOTE MAW

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NNN

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